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SEGA®

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

THE TRIAL
OF THE
TRAITOR



Welcome to the planet Mobius - a world unique and beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic the Hedgehog and the heroic Freedom Fighters work to save the world from the forces of evil!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...



Since Dr. Eggman launched his evil DEATH EGG Mark 2 battle station, The Freedom Fighters have had it pretty rough! The evil (omelet) dictator's first attack was the "History Reset Button," which altered reality itself!

Super Sonic was able to set the world right, but was unable to save Sally as she bravely sacrificed herself to stop Eggman's World Roboticizer. Princess Sally is now in the clutches of Eggman, transformed into the most menacing evil the planet Mobius has ever seen: MECHA SALLY.

Back in the city of New Mobotropolis, more trouble is brewing as the evil Wizard Ixis Naugus has been crowned the new King of the Acorn kingdom! With a madman abroad and a madman at home, Sonic must fight not one, but TWO fronts in the war against evil!

King Naugus' apprentice, the former hero Geoffrey St. John, is now standing trial for betraying his comrades.

And with tensions high and the city rattled following the Battle Bird Armada's recent invasion, the Freedom Fighters are ready for a **WIN...**



Who's Who



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
HERO OF MOBIUS



GEOFFREY ST. JOHN
TRAITOR AND IXIS APPRENTICE



IXIS NAUGUS
(EVIL) WIZARD



ELIAS ACORN
FORMER KING OF NEW MOBOTROPOLIS

JUST OUTSIDE OF
NEW MOBOTROPOLIS.

WOW...IT
LOOKS LIKE THE
BATTLE BIRD
ARMADA IS
CUTTING ITS
LOSSES AND
JUST EVACUAT-
ING THE CRASH
VICTIMS.

I DON'T
THINK WE'LL
HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT
THEM FOR A
WHILE.*

GOOD!
IT'S ABOUT
TIME WE
CAUGHT A
BREAK.

*THE ARMADA INVADED NEW MOBO-
TROPOLIS IN "BABYLON RISING" IN SU
#33-36, ON SALE NOW!

THE TRIAL OF GEOFFREY ST. JOHN

THIS
IS PATROL
THIRTEEN!
WE'VE CAUGHT
MOBIAN
SPIES!

DON'T
LET THEM
SEE THE
ARMADA'S
SHAME!

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ANTHONY GACCIONE AND
CINDY CHAU AT SEGA
LICENSING





"...THE BIG TRIAL FOR THAT STINKING TRAITOR!!"

CIVIC CENTER, NEW MOBOTROPOLIS...

ORDER,
ORDER, PLEASE.
HONORABLE
JUDGES HIP
AND HOP WILL
PASS JUDG-
MENT IN
TODAY'S
CASE...

...WITH KING
NAUGUS
PRESIDING.
COMMANDER
D'COOLETTE
WILL
PROSECUTE...

...WHILE
THE
DEFENDANT
HAS ELECTED
TO BE HIS OWN
DEFENSE.

HMPH.

LET'S
GET
THIS
OVER
WITH.

CERTAINLY
HIS
MAJESTY
IS NOT
OPPOSED
TO JUSTICE,
HMM?

BAH! I
MEAN...
OF
COURSE
NOT.

NOW, ZEN... COMMANDER
GEOFFREY ST. JOHN OF ZE
ROYAL SECRET SERVICE,
YOU ARE CHARGED WITH
TREASON.

HOW
DO YOU
PLEAD?

NOT
GUILTY.



UH...N-NO...
I'M HIS SON.
DAD IS...MY DAD
IS GONE.

THE
OLD ROYAL
WIZARD
...?

AHH! GEOFFREY!
YOU POOR BOY.
THIS IS IXIS
NAUGUS. DO
YOU RE-
MEMBER?

KODOS IS HERE WITH
ME. HE TELLS ME AN
OVERLANDER IS
WARLORD NOW?

YES.

THAT'S RIGHT!
I SPEAK TO YOU FROM
ANOTHER ZONE....!

THE
VERY
RACE...

...WHO
STARTED
THIS WAR
AND... I'LL BET
THEY KILLED
YOUR FATHER,
DIDN'T THEY?

YES.
I HATE
THEM! ALL
OF THEM!

LISTEN TO ME--THE NEW
WARLORD, THIS OVERLANDER,
CAN'T BE TRUSTED. THE KINGDOM
IS IN DANGER. ONLY I CAN SET
IT RIGHT. IT'S GOOD YOU FOUND
MY ARTIFACT; FOR I NEED SOME-
ONE TO PREPARE FOR MY
RETURN.

...ARE YOUNG AND FULL OF
POTENTIAL. YOU UNDERSTAND
THAT THE OVERLANDERS ARE
DANGEROUS. I WILL GUIDE
YOU. TRUST ME. TOGETHER,
WE WILL SAVE THE KINGDOM.

YOU
MEAN...
ME? BUT
SHOULDN'T
WE WARN
THE KING
FIRST?

...OKAY.
WHAT
SHOULD I
DO FIRST?

THE KING IS AN OVERLANDER-
LOVING FOOL. HIS TRUST IN THEM IS
WHAT LED TO WAR. YOU, HOWEVER...

"I GATHERED PLANS AND MANUALS FROM MY
FATHER AND OTHER GENERALS TO TRAIN BY AND TO
PREPARE FOR NAUGUS' RETURN."

"JUST AS PREDICTED, DR. ROBOTNIK
TURNED ON THE KINGDOM AND CON-
QUERED THE CITY. THE KING'S
WHEREABOUTS WERE UNKNOWN."

"I HEADED WEST, BY DAY I TRAINED BY MY FATHER'S MANUALS--"



"--AND LEARNED IXIS WIND MAGIC BY NIGHT. THAT IS, WHEN THE ZONE OF SILENCE * WASN'T DISRUPTING THE MESSAGES, IT WAS A... STRUGGLE TO LEARN ON MY OWN."



"THEN CAME THE BIG TURNING POINT..."

GOOD NEWS, APPRENTICE! I FOUND KING ACORN AND RESCUED HIM. HE'S RECOGNIZED HIS MISTAKES AND HAS SWORN HIS FEALTY TO ME. THE CROWN IS RIGHTFULLY MINE!

PREPARE MOBOTROP. OLIS FOR MY RETURN.

"EASIER SAID THAN DONE, RIGHT? THANKS TO THE MATERIALS I'D TAKEN, I KNEW WHERE TO LOOK FOR RECRUITS."



SMILEY! LOOK! IT'S IAN'S BOY!

AND WAIT UNTIL YOU HEAR ABOUT HIS PLANS FOR A "REBEL UNDERGROUND"!

"I WHIPPED THE REBEL UNDERGROUND INTO SHAPE, AND WE WORKED OUR WAY EAST. EVENTUALLY WE LINKED UP WITH THE KNOTHOLE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND, WELL, YOU KNOW THE REST./*



*SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME 5.



IF YOU WERE
TRULY ZIS IXIS ALL
ALONG, WHY DID
YOU HELP RESCUE
ZE KING FROM
ZE ZONE OF
SILENCE?*

*SONIC
ARCHIVES
VOLUME 11.



THE ZONE
WAS
FALL-
ING
APART
AROUND
US.

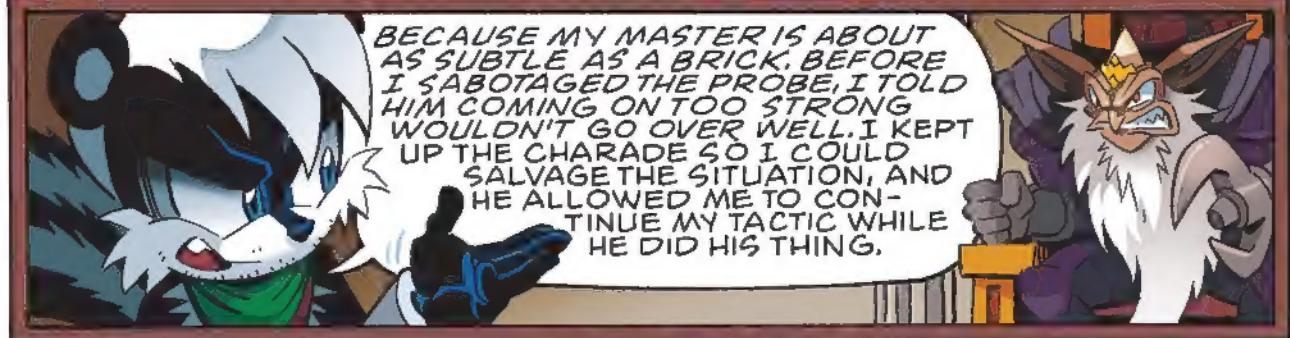
I DID WHAT I COULD
TO STABILIZE THE ZONE
AND SAVE MY MASTER.
BESIDES, MAX HAD
ALREADY SWORN THE
CROWN TO NAUGUS.
I DIDN'T REALIZE
HE WOULD BE SO...

...ADDLED.



AFTER WE
RECLAIMED ZE CITY
FROM ROBOTNIK, A
PROBE WAS SENT
INTO ZE ZONE. IT
FREEDED NAUGUS AND
HIS MINIONS --
OBVIOUSLY YOUR
MEDDLING. WHY DID
YOU NOT SIDE
WITH HIM
ZEN?**

**SONIC ARCHIVES
VOLUME 14.



BECAUSE MY MASTER IS ABOUT
AS SUBTLE AS A BRICK. BEFORE
I SABOTAGED THE PROBE, I TOLD
HIM COMING ON TOO STRONG
WOULDN'T GO OVER WELL. I KEPT
UP THE CHARADE SO I COULD
SALVAGE THE SITUATION, AND
HE ALLOWED ME TO CON-
TINUE MY TACTIC WHILE
HE DID HIS THING.





AND ANYWAY, I WAS RIGHT TO DO SO. MAX CONFIRMED NAUGUS' CLAIM, BUT SALLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT IT. THINGS ONLY DETERIORATED FROM THERE. THEN SONIC AND TAILS CHASED NAUGUS OFF TO THE SOUTHERN TUNDRA AND HE GOT SEALED IN THE ZONE OF SILENCE AGAIN.* SO I SET ABOUT BUILDING A STRONGER KINGDOM FOR HIM TO RETURN TO.



*SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME 17



TWO FORMER BADNIKS, AN UNKNOWN AGENT FROM ANGEL ISLAND...



** "END-GAME" --SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUMES 12-13.



ANY ONE OF THEM COULD HAVE BEEN EASILY FRAMED FOR ACTIONS AGAINST ZE KINGDOM DUE TO THEIR PASTS OR UNKNOWN STATUSES!



HEH, PRETTY DEVIOUS. BUT KNOWING VALDEZ FROM MY TIME ABROAD, I DOUBT IT'D HAVE BEEN EASY TO PIN ANYTHING ON THAT SHINOBI CLAN SPY.

OH? AND YET
HE WAS ZE ONLY
ONE ROBOTICIZED,
CONVENIENT,
HUH?

HE WAS A GOOD
MAN, AND HE FELL
WHILE PROTECTING
THE PEOPLE.

DON'T
BELITTLE HIS
SACRIFICE BY
BLAMING
ME!

YOU APPOINTED YOURSELF
PRINCE ELIAS' ADVISOR
WHEN HE FIRST TOOK COM-
MAND. UNDER YOUR DIREC-
TION, SONIC--ZE
HERO OF
MOBIUS--

--LOST HIS
KNIGHTHOOD!*
ELIAS WAS
DRIVEN
FROM ZE
THRONE!
**

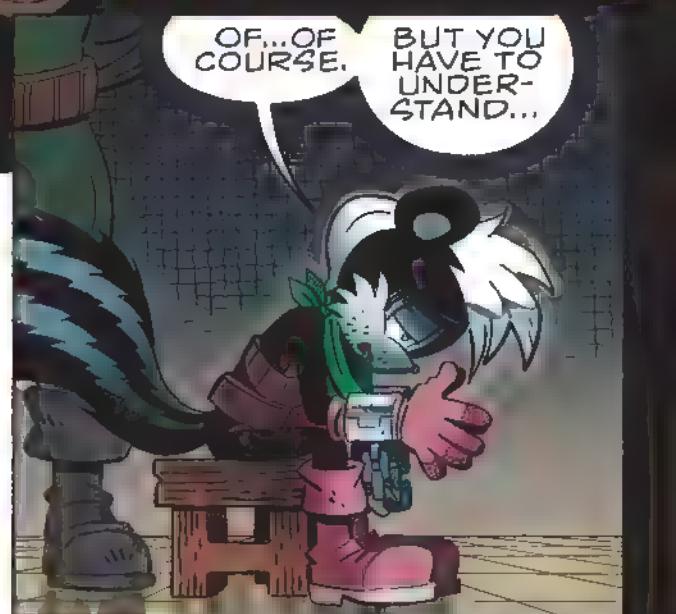
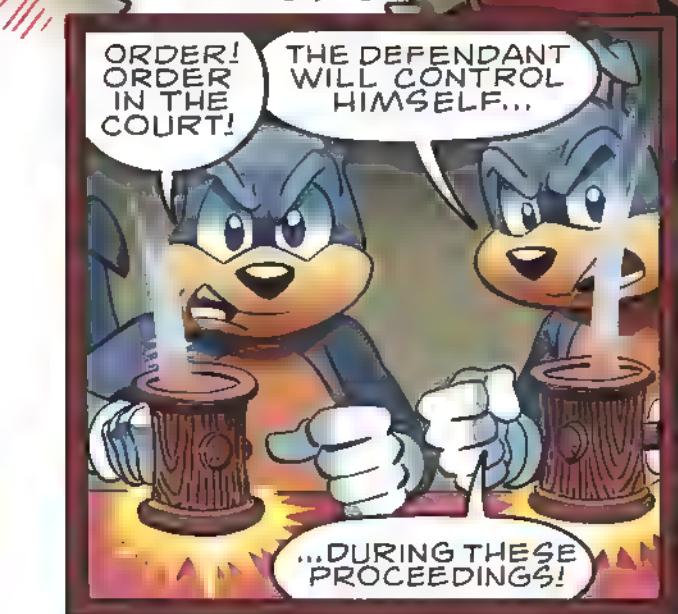
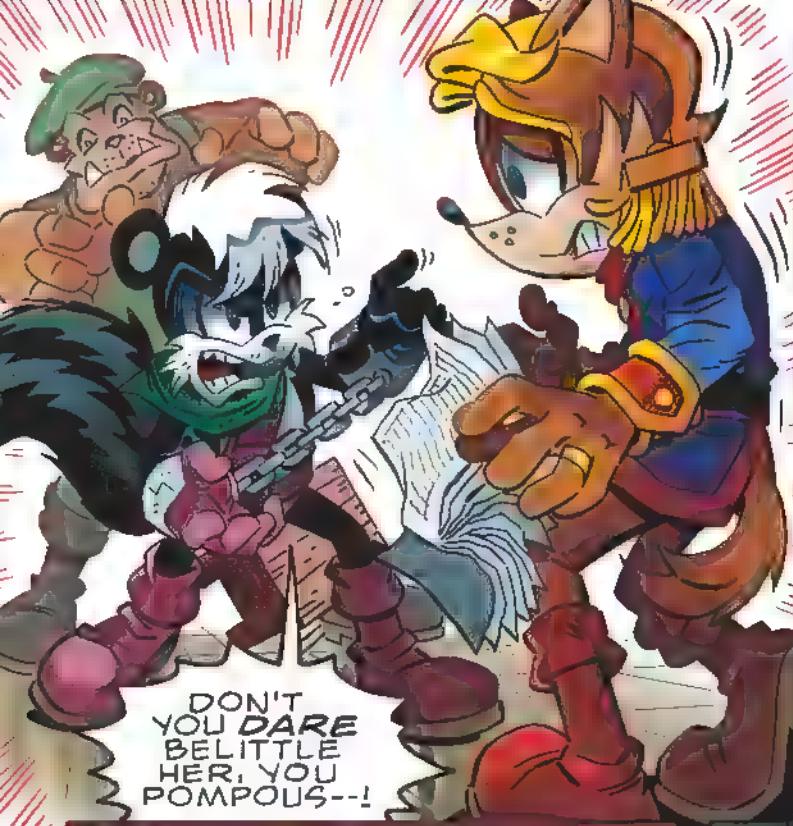
YOU WERE
OBVIOUSLY ATTEMPTING
TO UNDERMINE ZE ROYAL
FAMILY.

AND AFTER THAT, THE
KINGDOM OF KNOT-
HOLE GREW INTO
SOMETHING
RESPECTABLE.

*STH # 93.
**STH # 102.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, THE
AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCE AND
PRINCESS WAS NEVER LEGITIMATE.
BUT--THEIR IMAGE KEPT THE
KINGDOM UNDER CONTROL.

EVERY-
THING
I DID
BENEFITTED
THE KING-
DOM ITSELF
AND SET IT
UP FOR THE
TRUE KING.



"...SHE SAVED ME WHEN I WAS AT MY LOWEST. MY TEAM HAD BEEN DESTROYED.*NAUGUS HAD GONE SILENT. I GUESS HE WAS BUSY FUSING THE ZONE OF SILENCE AND THE VOID.**

"HERSHEY HAD BEEN MY BEST STUDENT. SHE LEARNED EVERYTHING I HAD TO TEACH ABOUT BEING A SECRET AGENT. AND THEN SHE TAUGHT ME HOW TO LOVE. HOW TO LIVE..."

"I HAD FAILED MY MISSIONS FOR MY MASTER AND AS A SECRET AGENT."

*STH #102.
**STH #163.

"...FOR MORE THAN THE MISSION."

"SHE WAS MY PARTNER--IN LIFE AS WELL AS IN THE FIELD. WE WERE MARRIED AT GUNPOINT, AND IT SOMEHOW FELT...RIGHT. SHE... WAS MY EQUAL. SHE WAS MY...EVERYTHING. I FELT...FREE, LIKE I SUDDENLY HAD A NEW DIRECTION IN LIFE.***"

***STH #130.

"...AND WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?"



"WITH JUST THE TWO OF US LEFT, WE HAD TO SPLIT UP..."

"I SPENT TIME IN THE UNITED FEDERATION'S TERRITORIES WHILE SHE FOLLOWED UP ON ACTIVITY IN SOUMERICA."**

* MOBIUS' SOUTH AMERICA

"WHEN SHE WENT SILENT FOR TOO LONG, I INVESTIGATED."

"I INVESTIGATED THE SCENE MYSELF. I COMBED THE AREA FOR DAYS."

"THE FELIDAE EVENTUALLY GAVE ME THE INFORMATION I NEEDED. SHE'D BEEN LIVING AMONG THEM TO SPY ON THE LOCAL D.E.L. CHAPTER. SHE... DIED WHILE UNDER COVER."

"I... JUST COULDN'T FIND ANY TRACE OF HER."

"I HAD LOST THE ONLY OTHER DIRECTION IN MY LIFE."

"I KNEW NAUGUS WAS FREE. I'D SEEN HOW CLOSE WE CAME TO LOSING EVERYTHING TO THE IRON DOMINION.** SO... I WENT BACK TO COMPLETE THE OTHER PURPOSE IN MY LIFE."***

**STH #210-211.
***STH #219-220.

SNIFF. BUT ALL OF THAT IS BESIDE THE POINT...

KING NAUGUS WAS THE RIGHTEFUL RULER FOR YEARS. I'VE SERVED HIM SINCE I WAS A CHILD. I'M NOT GUILTY OF TREASON.



NAUGUS' RULE WAS NOT RECOGNIZED UNTIL A FEW DAYS AGO! ZE ACCUSED ADMITS TO STEALING DOCUMENTS BEFORE ZE COUP D'ETAT--INCLUDING THOSE BELONGING TO MY LATE FATHER--AND TO ACTIVELY UNDERMINING ZE REIGN OF TWO ACORN KINGS WITHOUT MAKING HIS TRUE ALLEGIANCES CLEAR! HE IS GUILTY!

WE, THE JUDGES, ARE IN AGREEMENT. THE DEFENDANT WAS PRETENDING TO SERVE THE ACTIVE AUTHORITY WHILE WORKING AGAINST IT.

THE ENDS DO NOT JUSTIFY THE MEANS. WE FIND COMMANDER ST. JOHN...

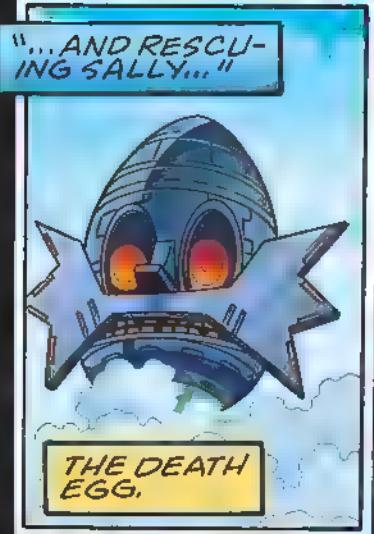
...GUILTY OF TREASON....!

GUILTY

GUILTY







WHAT EVIL IS DR. EGGMAN PLOTTING THIS TIME? YOU CANNOT MISS THE NEXT ISSUE WHEN SONIC MUST FACE THE "UNTHINKABLE"...! UNTIL THEN, ENJOY SONIC UNIVERSE, SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE, AND THE MANY, MANY SONIC GRAPHIC NOVELS!

FROM THE SHADOWS

MOTHER, YOU HAVE TO COME WITH US! IT'S NOT SAFE FOR US HERE WITH NAUGUS AS KING. MEG AND I KNOW FERAL FOREST, AND THE VILLAGERS WILL GLADLY TAKE US ALL IN.

I'M SORRY, ELIAS, BUT WE CAN'T GO.

WHY NOT?

MAXIMILLIAN HAS MADE UP HIS MIND TO STAY, AND I WILL NOT LEAVE HIS SIDE.

WRITER: IAN FLYNN
PENCILS: EVAN STANLEY
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLOR: EVAN STANLEY
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN
EDITOR: PAUL KAMINSKI



MOTHER, WE BOTH KNOW FATHER ISN'T WELL. HE'S NOT EVEN ABLE TO THINK CLEARLY. CONVINCE HIM TO COME WITH US.

...MAXIMILLIAN IS MY KING AND HUSBAND. I HAVE A DUTY TO HIM, AND I WILL NOT LEAVE HIS SIDE. ...PLEASE, ELIAS... IT'S BAD ENOUGH THAT SALLY IS GONE.

REGARDLESS OF WHO HOLDS THE CROWN...

DON'T SEPARATE US FURTHER.

BUT... BUT... RRGH! NO MATTER WHAT I CHOOSE TO DO, IT'S WRONG! SOMEBODY WILL BE LEFT VULNERABLE, OR HURT, OR--!

ELI, LISTEN...

YOU'RE DOING YOUR BEST IN A NO-WIN SITUATION.

I JUST... D-DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU, TOO.

I UNDERSTAND YOU DON'T WANT TO LEAVE THEM BEHIND, NOT AFTER WE JUST LOST SALLY. BUT IT WAS YOUR CROWN HE TOOK. ELI... PLEASE, I-I ALREADY SAW MY FIRST HUSBAND DIE.

I WANT TO PROTECT YOU, TO PROTECT THIS FAMILY.

BUT EVEN MOVING BACK TO FERAL FOREST, I KNOW THAT WITH NAUGUS AS KING, WE'LL NEVER TRULY BE SAFE...

"I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING..."



...HELLO?
DIRECTOR WHO?
IT'S KING...
IT'S ELIAS'
ACORN, I'D LIKE TO
SPEAK WITH
YOU.

DIRECTOR? DIRECTOR?
I RETIRED FROM
DIRECTOR OF THE
SECRET SERVICE
WHEN MAX PUT THAT
SKUNK IN CHARGE OF
THINGS.

UM, WELL... MY
FATHER SPOKE
HIGHLY OF YOU.
HE SAID THAT,
DURING HIS RULE,
YOU WERE
ALWAYS THERE
TO WATCH
HIS BACK.

HMPH...
DID
HE NOW?
SEEMS HE'S
LOST MORE
OF HIS
MARBLES
THAN I'D
HEARD.

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT,
BOY?

WHAT DO YOU--?

I TOLD HIM I DIDN'T TRUST KODOS, BUT HE MADE HIM WAR-LORD! I TOLD HIM TO KICK OUT NAUGUS, BUT HE BOOTED MORGAN INSTEAD! I TOLD HIM NOT TO TRUST THAT OVERLANDER, AND HE LET ROBOTNIK TAKE IT ALL OVER! I HAD TO WATCH HIS BACK BECAUSE HE NEVER LISTENED TO ME!



THE PROWERS WERE RIGHT. THE ACORNS FUMBLED THEIR REIGN. SO YOU GO ON AND RUN AWAY AND LET NAUGUS HAVE HIS CROWN. GOOD NIGHT.



YOU AND I BOTH KNOW NAUGUS' AMBITIONS WON'T END AT THE CROWN. I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO FIGHT HIM WITHOUT FIGHTING THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN WHO KNOWS HOW TO STRIKE FROM THE SHADOWS LIKE THAT.



PLEASE,
HELP
ME.



YOU'RE ASKING ME TO
ORCHESTRATE HORRIBLE,
TREASONOUS ACTS
AGAINST MY KING.

I'M YOUR KING.
NAUGUS IS
JUST KEEPING
MY CROWN
WARM.

NOW THAT'S WHAT
I WANTED TO
HEAR. I'M GLAD YOU
DON'T TAKE AFTER YOUR
FATHER--YOU THINK
OUTSIDE THE BOX.
NOW--WILL YOU
TRUST ME--

...TO PUT
THINGS IN
ORDER?

ABSOLUTELY.
IT'S WHY I
CAME TO YOU.

GOOD, YOU'RE GOING TO CONTINUE
WITH YOUR PLANS TO MOVE AWAY.
TONIGHT, WE'LL PLAN ON HOW
YOU'LL MAKE YOUR WAY BACK IN
SECRET. THE TIME IN BETWEEN
WILL BE ENOUGH FOR ME TO RE-
CRUIT A TEAM FOR YOU.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO
FIGHT NAUGUS, YOU'LL
NEED FREEDOM
FIGHTERS. **SECRET**
FREEDOM FIGHTERS.

WAIT,
SLOW DOWN,
WHAT TEAM?

Who is
Harvey
Who, and
who will
these
SECRET
FREEDOM
Fighters
be?
Keep
reading
Sonic
the
Hedge-
hog and
Sonic
Universe
to find out!



SONIC-GRAMS!

FAN ART

FAN FUNNIES!



Michael N.
from Arizona

Julia W. sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com



Angel F. sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com

Meagan H. sent to
sonic@archiecomics.com



HEY, KIDS!

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HILARIOUS SONIC COMIC STRIPS??
SEND YOUR SONIC STRIP TO:

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E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM



OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: JONATHAN GRAY
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SONIC-GRAMS

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P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

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LETTERS

DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF FAN RESPONSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EACH FAN. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED LETTERS TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS ARE APPRECIATED!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
I think Sonic and Knuckles are the coolest dudes on planet Mobius! Sonic and Sally are perfect as a team but I'm a little frustrated that it didn't work out too well in issue 230. I hope that he'll be able to rescue Sally very soon before Eggman uses her again for evil.

Based on the ending of this issue, I don't think the Freedom Fighters will be so lucky!

If this is my first time I get my letter in, I'll be thrilled.

We got ya covered!

I loved Genesis and I hope someday it will follow through to Sonic 3 and 4. The Genesis Sonic games are my favorite Sonic games in Sonic history! Anyways, I've read Sonic since issue 131 and now I'm reading issue 231. That's a lot of issues! I hope I'll collect all the missing story gaps in my collection by issue 300 in 2016!

Check the collector sets on archiecomics.com to start filling in issue gaps, but anything you can't find there are available in the Sonic Graphic Novels! Not to mention the Sonic App where you can download nearly every Sonic issue! plugplugplugplug

Please understand, I've been trying to get my letter in the comics since the Iron Dominion Saga happened! I'm surprised that said saga went on for such a long while!

Sonic's longest saga yet, at a whoppin' 16 issues! Yelpin' Yagyu that's a lot of issues!

I wouldn't be surprised if I'm not the only fan asking. I have been a very loyal Sonic fan for the past ten years playing Sonic and reading Sonic. I'll have the usual.

Shoot!

Can I be Sonic's #1.2 fan please? I'm Sonic's happy go lucky fan!

hmmm you ALSO wish to share the coveted decimal fan status? I suppose the council will allow it. Rise, Madam Kristy of the Decimal!

Are Mighty and Ray going on an adventure any time soon?

We're gettin' there! Hold your HawkHawks!

Does roboticization exist now in the post-Genesis world?

Details on the existence of the old immunities will continue to be revealed as we embark on our road to 250!

Will Amy date Sonic any time soon?

Can't tell ya!

Did Sonic get his speed from a power ring?

Sonic's speed is enhanced by power rings, but aren't necessarily the cause of his speedy demeanor.

I've wanted a conversational reply for so long! Happy 20th anniversary Sonic!! Bye.

Sonic's happy go lucky fan,
Kristy C.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Thanks for writing in, Kristy! Hope you enjoy what we've got in store for you!

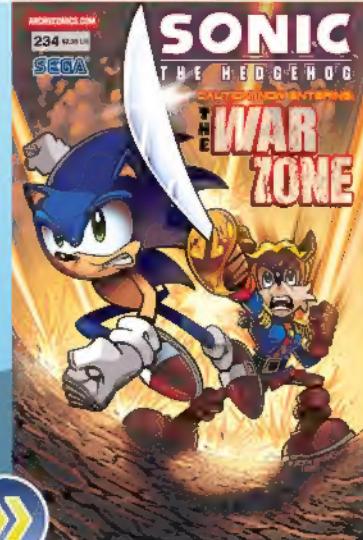
Dear Sonic-Grams,
Issue 232 was just spectacular! But it has made me fearful of whether or not the Brotherhood of Guardians will return. I need my Spectre Back XD.

Thanks!
Alex T.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Thanks for the letter, Alex! Yea the future certainly seems bleak for the lost Brotherhood, but hey, Knuckles has got quite a full plate as it is! Check the Knuckles Archives GN series for all the Guardian- Goodness your heart desires! Volume 2 is coming soon! plugplugplug

See y'all next month!

NEXT ISSUE: 234

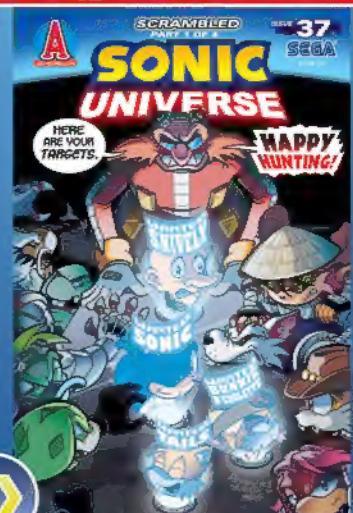


IT AIN'T OVER 'TILL THE EGGMAN SINGS!

EGGMAN MOUNTS HIS BIGGEST ATTACK AND THE FF MUST FACE THE...

"UNTHINKABLE"
ON SALE THE WEEK OF 3/06/12

NEXT SONIC UNIVERSE: 37



THE BRAND NEW EGGMAN ARC BEGINS NEXT MONTH IN...

SCRAMBLED
PART 1 (OF 4)

ON SALE THE WEEK OF 2/21/12!



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